



NOAA

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



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Officials to test tsunami warning system in Del Norte, Humboldt and Mendocino counties during Tsunami Preparedness Week

NOAA and the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) plan to conduct a test of the tsunami warning communications system on Wednesday, March 23 between 11 a.m. and noon PDT in coastal areas of northern California.

This emergency test will be broadcast on NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards, local television and radio stations in Del Norte, Humboldt, and Mendocino counties. Residents in some communities may hear warning sirens. Some television systems are programmed to scroll a standard emergency alert text message and, in some cases, the message may not contain the word "TEST." An audio message will say that the message is only a test, but if the volume is turned down or otherwise unheard, viewers may not realize the message is a test.

To avoid confusion with an actual alert the test will be canceled if there is excessive seismic activity 24 hours prior to the test. People monitoring the test in coastal areas who do not receive it are asked to inform their local National Weather Service office.

This test is a cooperative effort between NOAA, Cal OES, California Broadcasters Association, and local emergency management officials in coastal areas of northern California.

During California's [Tsunami Preparedness Week](#), March 20 - 26, NOAA and emergency managers promote tsunami safety and awareness and urge coastal residents and visitors to prepare themselves and their families for a tsunami. Everyone, everywhere should know how to be prepared for tsunamis and what to do to be safe. This is true for people who live or work near the ocean, and also for anyone who may visit someday. For more information visit www.TsunamiZone.org which provides suggestions and resources for your family or organization to "know your zone" and to learn how to be safe. Be counted among people and organizations worldwide by registering your 2016 tsunami preparedness activities!

If you are located in potential tsunami inundation zones you are also encouraged to work with local officials to organize a "Tsunami Walk" evacuation drill for your community, family, group, or neighborhood. NOAA supports [America's PrepareAthon!](#) and recommends everyone take a [preparedness action](#), such as creating a family emergency plan. For more information, see the [America's PrepareAthon! web site](#).

NOAA's [National Tsunami Warning Center](#) offers complete information, including the current status of tsunami warnings, advisories and watches, and [frequently asked questions](#).

[NOAA's National Weather Service](#) is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for the United States and its territories. NOAA's National Weather Service operates the most advanced weather and flood warning and forecast system in the world, helping to protect lives and property and enhance the national economy. Working with partners, NOAA's National Weather Service is building a Weather-Ready Nation to support community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather. Visit us at [weather.gov](#) and join us on [social media](#).

On the Web:

National Tsunami Preparedness Week:

<http://nws.weather.gov/nthmp/tpw/tsunami-preparedness-week.html>

NOAA's National Weather Service: <http://www.weather.gov>

NOAA Tsunami Web sites: www.tsunami.noaa.gov, www.tsunami.gov, www.weather.gov/tsunamisafety

NOAA's National Tsunami Warning Center: <http://ntwc.arh.noaa.gov>

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